Environmental Assessment Erratum for the Interstate Intertie Centennial Plan, Harry Allen - Mead 500-kV Transmission Line Project (DOE/EA 1470)

Proposed Action

Alternative Route into Mead Substation

Based on additional engineering analysis, Nevada Power has proposed a minor route alternative to avoid crossing another transmission line. This reroute is located just prior to where the proposed 500-kV transmission line would enter the Mead Substation. Both the original alignment and the reroute alternative would be located on Western's withdrawn lands.

The original alignment as analyzed in the environmental assessment (EA), would approach the Mead substation from the west (Option A). At the second structure outside of the Mead Substation, the line would angle southward to cross under the Marketplace - Mead 500-kV Transmission Line then angle east at the last structure, before interconnecting at a new bay in the Mead Substation. (Figure 1)

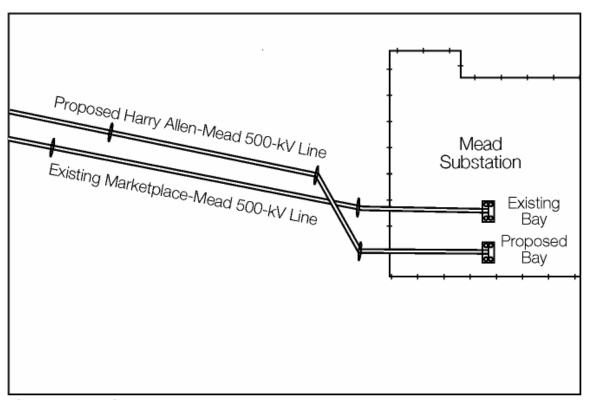


Figure 1—Option A

The new alignment (Option B) would enter nearly straight into the Mead substation and interconnect at the existing Marketplace – Mead bay. A new bay would be built to accommodate the Marketplace – Mead Transmission Line interconnection. While the

footprint of the transmission line for Option B would be slightly altered, it would result in less soil disturbances because the last structure would be eliminated. (Figure 2)

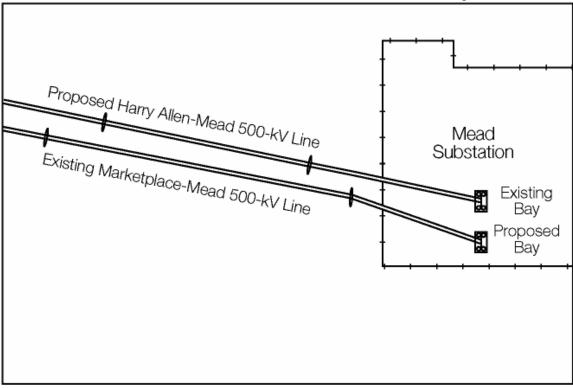


Figure 2—Option B

Because of this decreased soil disturbance, environmental effects to all resources would be the same as or less than those expected for Option A. Electrical reliability of Option B would likely be better than for Option A because the crossing would be avoided.